

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HB 2309

children's health insurance program Prime Sponsor: Representative Cobb, et al., LD 5

DPA Committee on Health

W/D Committee on Appropriations

DPA Caucus and COW

X House Engrossed

OVERVIEW

HB 2309 eliminates the enrollment cap on the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) administered by the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS).

PROVISIONS

- 1. Eliminates the enrollment cap on CHIP and makes necessary conforming changes.
- 2. Provides that if the federal government eliminates federal funding for CHIP, AHCCCS must immediately stop processing all applications and must provide at least 30 days' advance notice to contractors and members that the program will terminate.
- 3. Requires AHCCCS, within five days after the effective date, to do both of the following:
 - a. Submit to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) a state plan amendment to resume enrollment in CHIP; and
 - b. Project the enrollment rate for CHIP for the remainder of federal fiscal years 2016 and 2017 and request from CMS any additional allotment needed to resume enrollment in CHIP.
- 4. Contains a conditional enactment of sections A.R.S. §§36-2982 and 36-2985, respectively (children's health insurance program and administration non-entitlement; enrollment; eligibility) and (notice of program termination; spending limitation) as amended by this act, do not become effective unless on or before July 1, 2017 CMS approves this state's plan amendment to resume enrollment in CHIP.
- 5. Requires the director of AHCCCS to notify in writing the Director of Arizona Legislative Council on or before July 15, 2017 either:
 - a. Of the date on which the condition was met; or
 - b. That the condition was not met.
- 6. Makes technical and conforming changes.

CURRENT LAW

A.R.S. Title 36, Chapter 29, Article 4 is the statutes related to CHIP.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The CHIP program provides health coverage to children in families with incomes between 133% and 200% of the federal poverty level, but above the levels required for the regular AHCCCS program. Beginning on October 1, 2015 CHIP will receive a 100% federal match rate through

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September 20, 2019. The CHIP program has had an enrollment freeze since January 1, 2010. The CHIP program will receive a 3:1 federal match rate for the first quarter of state fiscal year (FY) 2016 and a 100% federal match rate beginning on October 1, 2015 thereafter a weighted blended FY 2016 rate of 94.48% FY 2016 Appropriations Report (see page 39).